FECN11 CWIS 141800

THIRTY DAY FORECAST FOR THE GREAT LAKES FROM MID APRIL TO MID MAY ISSUED BY THE NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ON 14 APRIL 2006.

THIS IS THE LAST ICE FORECAST FOR THIS WINTER SEASON.

Lake Superior

Temperatures were above normal during the first two weeks of April. The current ice situation is still about a week to 10 days earlier than normal in terms of break-up.

Forecast ice conditions from April 15th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the first part of April.

- 1. Thunder Bay The thick lake ice in the extreme eastern part of Thunder Bay will completely melt by the end of April.
- 2. Nipigon and Black Bays Consolidated thick and medium lake ice will completely fracture with open water areas by the last week of April.
- 3. From Nipigon Bay to Duluth Mainly open water.
- 4. Southern Lake Superior including the Keweenaw Peninsula Mostly open water.
- 5. Whitefish Bay The patchy rotten lake ice in the bay will melt during the period.
- 6. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay and westward to Nipigon Bay Open water to ice free.
- 7. Elsewhere in Lake Superior Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from May1st to May 15th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last two weeks of April.

- 1. Thunder Bay –Open water becoming ice free.
- 2. Nipigon and Black Bays –Patchy rotten thick lake ice will continue to melt so that by the end of the period all areas will be open water to ice free.
- 3. Elsewhere in Lake Superior Ice free.

Lake Michigan

Temperatures averaged above normal the first two weeks of April. Ice free conditions prevail.

Forecast ice conditions from April 15th to May 15th.

Ice free.

Lake Huron and Georgian Bay

Temperatures were above normal during the first half of April. The current ice situation is two to three weeks earlier than normal in terms of break-up.

Forecast ice conditions from April 15th to 30th.

Temperatures will average above normal over the first part of April.

- 1. North Channel Patchy rotten lake ice in the western portion of the channel. The consolidated ice in the eastern part of the channel will continue to fracture. By the end of April only very patchy rotten lake ice will remain over those areas. The central part of the channel will remain open water.
- 2. St Mary's River Open water.
- 3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron Open water.
- 4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw Open water.
- 5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay Open water.
- 6. Saginaw Bay Ice Free.
- 7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron –Open water to ice free.
- 8. Georgian Bay Open water.
- 9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron- Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from May 1st to May 15th.

Temperatures will average above normal for the last half of April.

- 1. North Channel The ice in the North Channel will completely melt the first week in May.
- 2. St Mary's River Ice free.
- 3. Elsewhere in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay Ice free.

Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair

Temperatures averaged above normal the first two weeks of April. Ice free conditions prevail.

Forecast ice conditions from April 15th to May 15th.

Remaining Ice free.

Lake Ontario

Temperatures averaged above normal the first two weeks of April. Ice free conditions prevail.

Forecast ice conditions from April 15th to May 15th.

Remaining Ice free.







